

ANCHORED IN HOPE

In our last newsletter, our beloved principal David Jones, bid us farewell. After serving as principal of Sarasota High School for just over seven years, he has accepted the position of Executive Director of Professional Learning & Leadership Development for Sarasota County Schools. We are excited for him, and we know that he will continue to impact Sarasota County Schools in his new role.

With his departure comes change. Many things can be said about change. One thing for certain is that change is a constant. No matter who you are or what season of life you are in at this moment, change will inevitably come in one way or another. It arrives on our doorstep waiting to see how we will respond to it. Will we welcome and embrace it and maybe even find a way to thrive on it or will we draw back from it? Many times, the change that appears on our radar is out of our control and sometimes it can bring pain or disappointment. But other times, change offers us the chance to stretch and grow and it opens the door for new opportunities.

As change appeared on the horizon for Sarasota High School, I found myself pausing and reflecting on the word anchor. If you think about Sarasota High School, the Mighty Sailors and our rich history, an anchor will inevitably appear in the forefront or the background. Anchors are visible on our campus and on our website, social media platforms and in every newsletter. An anchor is as symbolic of Sarasota High as our Sailor mascot. It's part of who we are. We are the Mighty Sailors, anchored in our four pillars of *Respect, Reliability, Responsibility and Resiliency*. The very fabric of who we are is representative of an anchor.

There are many types of anchors. The maritime anchor is a heavy object attached to a rope or chain. It is used to moor a vessel to the sea bottom or to hold a ship in place. In life just as on the water, an anchor provides a firm basis or foundation and keeps us

grounded or connected to what matters most. When we're anchored in life, we're able to cope with the changes and challenges that life brings along the way. An anchor also represents a symbol of hope towards the future. The key is being anchored in hope. If we anchor ourselves in hope for the future, we are destined for success.

In studying anchors and their history, I discovered that an anchor represents stability, resilience, safety, hope, new adventures, confidence, strength and



overcoming adversity. An anchor is also a reminder of one's roots and origins. Just like an anchor, the Mighty Sailors have proven they're overcomers and triumphant in adversity, resilient with changing tides, filled with hope for the future.

As the tide changes, let us remain anchored in our core values of *Respect*, *Reliability*, *Responsibility and Resiliency*. Let us not lose sight of our mission "to collaboratively engage students and staff in a culture of learning to ensure high achievement for all." Let us drop our anchor in hope— hope as we

welcome a new principal, hope as we continue to strive for excellence, hope for a future filled with bright possibilities and, hope as we press on toward the mark. Hope anchors the soul!

SARASOTA HIGH SCHOOL

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MISSION STATEMENT

Sarasota High School collaboratively engages students and staff in a culture of learning to ensure high achievement for all students.

VISION

Sarasota High School will be a high-functioning professional learning community that will graduate all students career and college ready, prepared to contribute to their community.

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IMPORTANT DATES

Sept. 23 Homecoming Dance	
Oct. 12 End of 1st Grading Period	
Oct. 16 Professional Day—No Scho	ol
Nov. 20 — Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Break	
Dec. 21 End of 2nd Grading Period	
Dec. 22 Professional Day—No Scho	ol
Dec. 23—Jan.7 Winter Break	
Jan. 15 Martin Luther King Day— No School	
Feb. 19 Presidents Day—No School	
Mar. 7 End of 3rd Grading Period	
Mar. 8 Professional Day—No Scho	ol
Mar. 11—Mar. 15 Spring Break	
Mar. 29 Mini Break	
May 24 Last Day of School	

TESTING CALENDAR

Below is the estimated window of test dates. Exact dates subject to change.

Sept. 4 – 15	FAST ELA Make-up Grades 9-10
Sept. 5 – Sept. 29	FSAA ELA Math, Civics, Science Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, U.S. History
Sept. 11 – Sept. 29	FSA EOC Algebra

Sept. 11 – Sept. 29 FSA	ELA Retake, Reading &
Writ	ing

Sept. 11 – Oct. 6	. NGSSS EOC, Biology, Civics	,
	U.S. History	

Sept. 11 – Oct. 6 BEST EOC Algebra 1 & Geometry

Sept. 11 – Oct. 6 FAST ELA Retake

Sept. 25 – Oct. 13 . . . FSAA 10th Grade ELA Make-up

Sept. 25 – Oct. 13 . . . FSAA Algebra 1 Make-up

SCHOOL **COUNSELING TEAM**

Our school counseling team is excited to "welcome aboard" two amazing new counselors, Kimberly Dwyer and Cindy Rasmussen. Our complete team of school counselors is listed below.



Dana Albanese AICE Grades 9 and 12



Star Conti AICE Grades 10 and 11



Caitlin MacLeod ESE Grades 9-12



Lauren Taylor - A-F



Kim Dwyer — G-M



Cindy Rasmussen — N-Z

Students can schedule an appointment to see their counselor by scanning the corresponding QR code included here. We appreciate your continued support and partnership as we work together to provide support for all students here at Sarasota High.



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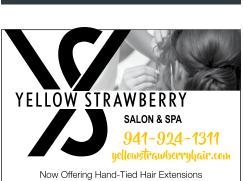
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AICE

The AICE results for the Spring 2023 testing series were released on August 10th. We are very proud of our Sailor students! Our overall pass rate for all AICE exams was 81%. This included approximately 930 students testing over 2,400 exams on our 21 AICE courses.

We had 151 graduating seniors earn their AICE Diploma this year. Of those seniors, 89 seniors earned the AICE Diploma with Merit, and 15 seniors earned the AICE Diploma with Distinction. We had four students score top marks in AL History, AL Marine Science, and AL Spanish. Thirty-three juniors (current seniors) earned their AICE Diploma in Spring 2023.

We have approximately 225 new freshman AICE students this year, and 31 new sophomore AICE students. There are 865 total students in AICE this year.

Please ask your student about the orange AICE folders that were sent home the second week of school. Included

in this folder was the AICE Honor Code contract that was due back to your student's English teacher by August 31st. If your child did not turn in his/her contract, please make sure they return it to the AICE office located at 13-200 as soon as possible. Students who missed the August 31st deadline will have a behavior infraction on their AICE record. Also in your student's AICE folder, you will find important information on testing procedures, the provisional June 2024 testing calendar. AICE Boosters information, and other useful details pertaining to the AICE program.

Senior AICE students- please check and log your volunteer hours for Bright Futures. You cannot earn Bright Futures if these hours are not logged. Please visit the Student Success Center located in the Global Learning Center if you have any questions.

Donations are always welcome and needed! Please visit our website at SHSAICE.com to donate online or send a check (made payable to "Sarasota High AICE Boosters") to the AICE office in 13-200. Thank you for your support!



AICE Senior Hayden Wilding



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NAHS

Attention SHS teachers! If you're interested in a custom door sign to display outside your classroom, please contact Mrs. Markley, the National ART Honor Society sponsor. NAHS will produce a customized sign with your name, club involvements, college logos, and more.

Tami Sola Lot Only!

2023 Painting days:

ugust 7th & 8th and

Payment

\$35.00 if paid by May 31s

\$45.00 if paid by July 31st

\$50.00 if paid by Oct. 16th

WANT ART STUDENTS TO



ATTENTION CLASS OF 2024 PAINT YOUR PARKING

Personalize your space and make your mark for the year! Create a fun design and paint it with your friends!



Are you looking ahead and need a 2024 calendar? NAHS will be selling calendars featuring SHS students' art each month. Support your school's artists by purchasing a small calendar for \$5, or a large calendar for \$10. If you are a member of NAHS, you may use this opportunity to display your art in the calendar. Submissions are due to Mrs. Markley by Wednesday, September 27, 2023.



Class of 2024! Did you already pay to paint your parking space, but missed the summer painting days? NAHS is offering you another opportunity to personalize your space on October 16, 2023, from 8 AM – 2PM. All staff and seniors who park in the Tami Sola parking lot are welcome to join us for this painting event. See Mrs. Markley in 5-204 if interested in painting your parking space.



C A L E N D A R





OUT-OF-FIELD DESIGNATIONS 2023-2024

Florida's State Department of Education requires that school districts notify parents and guardians when their student is being instructed by a teacher who is out-of-field. Out-of-Field is a term used for teachers whose assigned teaching duties currently include a subject matter that is outside the field in which they are certified.

Radhika Miller is teaching out-of-field for Social Studies. Should you have any questions regarding the 2023-24 Out-of-Field Designations, please call Lindsay Gallof, Assistant Principal – Curriculum, at (941) 955-0181.

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GRADE LEVEL COMMUNICATION BAND QR CODES

STUDENTS & PARENTS — PLEASE FOLLOW FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION!



SPEECH AND DEBATE

By James Mayer

The SHS Speech and Debate team had a very exciting conclusion to last season with two members, 2023 graduate Peyton Milhorn and junior Gemma Davies, competing in the NCFL National Championship Tournament in Louisville, Kentucky over Memorial Day weekend. The team also qualified for the NSDA National Championship held in June in Phoenix, Arizona, but they opted not to attend.

With a new year comes a new team as the novices come in to replace the seniors who graduated. This is a year of change for the debate team with a new location (Portable #2) for meetings and practice, a new senior captain, Anika Sackerlotzky, and several new teammates. The team has welcomed three freshmen, one sophomore, and two seniors to this highly competitive team.

The season will begin with a congressional debate tournament which Sarasota is co-hosting with Pineview on September 9. It is an excellent opportunity for competitors to prepare for future competitions or to try a new event since congress is

the only event offered at this tournament. The start of the year is such an exciting time for novice members, as they have a chance to explore all the different events and decide which ones suit them best--speech, drama, or debate categories.

As always, the team cannot function without the return of its coach, Dr. Terri St. John. This is her 27th year teaching at Sarasota High School and her 26th year coaching the team. Sarasota High parents and community members are encouraged to help support the team through donations and supplies. Donations help cover costs for things like state and national qualifying tournaments which require students to travel overnight for two-day competitions, as well as state and national championships which are held outside of Florida. The Sailor Speech and Debate Team is excited to embark on their new season. Please feel free to contact Dr. St. John at Terri. StJohn@sarasotacountyschools.net if you would like to learn more about how you can support the team, make donations or provide needed supplies.

FCA WELCOMES STUDENT ATHLETES

FCA held their first meeting of the school year on Wednesday, September 6. Athletes, coaches, students and teachers gather Wednesday mornings at 7:00 AM in the Howell Gym Lobby for encouragement, inspiration and bagels.





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JROTC BULLDOG BATTALION

Cadet Master Sergeant Kaia Nelson

Our Bulldogs have started another strong year. Cadets are joining teams and getting involved in our battalion events. We have a lot of upcoming events for 2023-2024. If you are unfamiliar with our program and what we do, the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Program is dedicated to inspiring and promoting leadership, character and community service among its members. This is done by providing cadets with hands-on leadership experience. Cadets are responsible to implement our student run program and they are given responsibility for managing and leading one another in a variety of teams, classes and many other activities. There is absolutely no obligation for cadets to join the military, and in fact the vast majority of those enrolled in JROTC do not elect to serve in the armed forces after high school.

Our Battalion is led by senior Lieutenant Colonel Hayden Wilding. He is a member of the AICE program and is on the Raider Team in JROTC. So far, under his direction, the Battalion staff have begun drafting several ideas for both the Continuous Improvement and Service-Learning Project. Each year the Bulldog Battalion decides on a project in JROTC that we wish to ameliorate. Past Continuous Improvements have included better physical training, additional promotions, and more consistency in the wearing of uniforms. In addition, every year the Battalion completes a Service-Learning Project. As a program, we work together to accomplish a volunteer event in our community. These events are typically planned over

> several months and require the full attention of the Battalion staff to complete.

> Overall, it is shaping up to be a great year for Sarasota High's JROTC program. Let's go Bulldogs!



CLASS OF 2024 SENIOR PACKAGES

Packages are Final-No Refunds (Students can lose Prom & Grad Bash privileges if they have attendance or discipline issues during their senior year)

BEST VALUE

\$350.00

1st payment due by November 1st 2nd Payment due by January 13th

Orange Package -

- · Senior Class Fee
- Diploma Cover
- Class Photo
- Graduation Medallion
- Yearbook
- Prom Ticket (Must bring dance waiver in exchange for prom ticket)
- Grad Bash Ticket Senior Class T-Shirt

Economically Savvy \$250.00

1st payment due by November 1st 2nd Payment due by January 13th

White Package –

Senior Class Fee Diploma Cover Class Photo Graduation Medallion Senior Class T-Shirt

Black Package -

- Senior Class Fee
- Diploma Cover
- · Class Photo
- · Graduation Medallion
- Yearbook
- Grad Bash Ticket
- · Senior Class T-Shirt

Just the Basics \$60.00

1st payment due by November 1st 2nd Payment due by January 13th

Please note that these packages DO NOT include graduation caps, gowns, tassels, or announcements.

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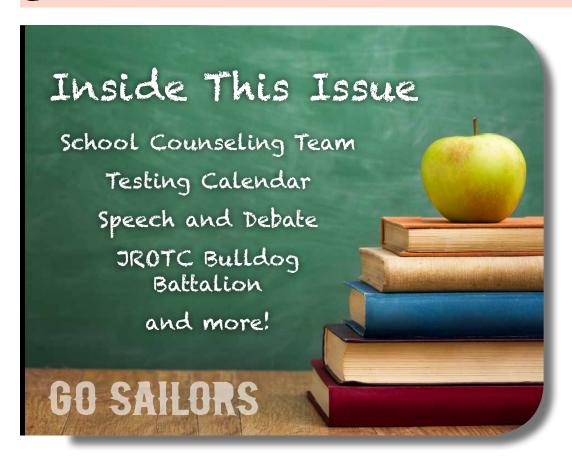


Sarasota County District Schools

SARASOTA HIGH SCHOOL

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SARASOTA HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF FAME DINNER

Our 6th Annual Sarasota High School Hall of Fame Dinner is Wednesday, October 18th at 6 PM at Michael's On East. We will be honoring Tom Whitehurst (Coach and Male Athlete), Cedric Saunders (Male Athlete), Dr. Carl Luer (The Eddie Howell Award of Excellence), Scott Dunlap (Male Athlete), Mollie Cardamone (Community Steward Award), and Fredd Atkins (Community Steward Award).

Please join us as we honor six new inductees and raise money towards the Sarasota High School Foundation. Tickets can be purchased at sarasotahalloffame.com.